



# CALPEEK

## CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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VOL. XX  
No. 42

NOV. 16, 1998

### **WHITE HOUSE 2000: LOSS OF PROP. 3 BAD NEWS FOR PETE WILSON. DEMOS DON'T SEEM TO CARE.**

Editor's note: Here's another look at the political fall-out from the defeat of Prop. 3 - aimed at partially closing Calif.'s open primary law dealing with the selection of president. Here's our update & analysis...

...Prop. 3 got only a **46% YES** vote, primarily because the CA Demo Party & CA Republican Party didn't do a thing to inform voters about this initiative and its political consequences. A major screw-up in the view of many sources. But other **Calpeek** sources have suggested that just *maybe* the two major parties wanted Prop. 3 to fail!!!

...Think about it. With a State *presidential convention* (as opposed to a *direct vote*), *who gets to pick* the presidential candidate? It's the party bosses, political kingmakers and party insiders. And remember: as it stands now, Calif.'s Mar. 7, 2000 presidential primary is nothing more than a beauty contest because RNC & DNC rules *doesn't* allow cross-party voting when it comes to picking a president...

...And who is the *big loser* because of Prop. 3's defeat? CA Gov. Pete Wilson(R). Why? If, as our sources now believe, the State legislature enacts a bill to allow the political parties to hold presidential nominating conventions in 2000, one has to look and see who controls the CA Republican Party. The answer is the *hardline conservatives* - who aren't friendly to Wilson. And in a winner-take-all convention (which is how the GOP primary works in Calif.), the smart money is on Steve Forbes, Jack Kemp, Dan Quayle, Texas Gov. George W. Bush or Elizabeth Dole. But if there was a direct vote, Wilson's chances of winning in a crowded field would increase dramatically...

...Will Pete run in 2000? Wilson has said that if he can raise \$15 million before the Feb. 22nd, 2000 New Hampshire primary, he'll toss his hat in the ring...

...On the Demo side, a State convention doesn't really present a problem. VP Al Gore is a solid favorite at this point to win the bulk of Calif.'s Demo delegates. Demo party rules in Calif. permit a proportional split of delegates - so there is no winner-take-all situation...

...FYI: best solution to this whole mess is to allow the Demos & GOP to do a vote by mail primary for president on Mar. 7 and then move the regular primary back to June. Stay tuned...

### **CAMPAIGN '98: CALPEEK'S WINNERS & LOSERS.**

Editor's note: And now, for what it's worth, here is one of your favorite columns: *Winners & Losers*. There is absolutely nothing objective about this column...

◆ *The Big Winner* - Gov.-elect Gray Davis(D). And his was also the *Best Overall Campaign*. Congrats to his media consultant Doak, Carrier & O'Donnell; cmp. director Garry South; & pollsters Fairbank, Maslin & Maullin...

● *Best Initiative Campaign* - No question here: **YES on 5** campaign (Indian Gaming). Winner/Wagner & Mandabach, lead consultant; Fairbank, Maslin & Maullin on polling; and news media relations was handled by Steve Glazer. Many other consultants too...

◆ *Calif. Initiative King Award* - Again to Winner/Wagner & Mandabach for two big wins: **YES on 5** and **NO on 9** w/Townsend, Raimundo, Besler & Usher (polling by Jim Moore and Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin)...

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◆ **Perfect Night Award** - Sacto-based consultant Richie Ross had an excellent night: Cruz Bustamante for LG; Bill Lockyer for AG; two OPEN seat State Senate wins (6th & 32nd) and a big win for Joe Dunn in knocking off Sen. Rob Hurtt(R-Garden Grove). FYI: S.F.-based Solem & Assoc. were 6 for 6 in local ballot measure campaigns...

● **Titanic Award** - The *worst campaign* of this cycle: Dan Lungren. His campaign for governor was a major disaster for the entire GOP ticket in Calif...

◆ **Longest Night Award** - To Sacto-based Russo, Marsh & Raper, who in September looked like they had 3 big winners in Matt Fong for U.S. Senate, Dave Stirling for AG and Curt Pringle for Treasurer. All 3 lost...

◆ **Wishing It Were 1994 Again Award** - To former GOP Assembly Leader Bill Leonard(R-Upland)...

● **Plop Plop, Fizz Fizz Award** - To the effort (there was hardly any campaign) to defeat Calif. Supreme Court Chief Justice Ron George and Assoc. Justice Ming Chin...

● **The Last Hurrah** - Poor Pete Wilson(R). He puts education (the top issue in the U.S.) on the CA ballot in the form of Prop. 8 and he can't even get it approved. What a way to leave office!!!

◆ **Digital Salute Award** - To Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush(R). His tv spots made you think Mr. Q was the *man the insurance industry feared most*. What a joke!!!

● **Big Win/Small Budget Award** - To the **YES on Prop. 1-A** campaign and to Bobbie Metzger and her gang -- ex Stoorza, Ziegus & Metzger employees Gwyn Bicker & Sharon Hawkins of Burston Marsteller and Marie Moretti of Goddard Claussen; plus Kaufman Campaign Consulting and McNally/Temple...

◆ **Best New Political Tool** - Award to San Diego-based Four Square Productions. They produced a 30-minute "political infomercial" for NO on 9, featuring consumer advocate David Horowitz...

● **Best Down-Ballot TV Spot Award** - To LG-elect Cruz Bustamante(D). Consultant Richie Ross

produced a compelling ad, where Cruz again did what many candidates don't do: he asked for your vote...

◆ **Best Negative TV Spot** - To Galanty & Co. for their ad on behalf of Treasurer-elect Phil Angelides (D) bashing GOP rival Curt Pringle...

● **Best Post-Election One Liner** - From CDP political consultant Bob Mulholland: "The Republicans wanted impeachment so badly they impeached their own." Stay tuned...

**CAMPAIGN '98: ELECTION POST MORTEM PART II**  
Editor's note: Here's more analysis on Calif.'s Nov. 3rd general election...

■ **Reapportionment** - It's the #1 topic of political conversation in Sacto these days and the GOP is just totally freaked out. GOP consultants, lawmakers and their business allies are already discussing plans for an initiative to take the reapportionment power away from the governor and the legislature and give the job of remapping to retired judges. For those with short memories, the current House & Legislative districts were drawn by appointed *court masters*. FYI: Demos no longer need solid 55% districts to win. They can and are winning in districts with 45-47 percent Demo registration...

■ **Demographics** - Campaign '98 proved what **Calpeek** has been saying for some time: the GOP voting base is *declining* and the CA Republican Party's efforts to recruit new voters hasn't been very successful. What does this mean? On Nov. 3rd, the GOP's best showing in an open Statewide race was 42% by AG candidate Dave Stirling - who lost to State Sen. Bill Lockyer(D). Governor candidate Dan Lungren, LG candidate Tim Leslie and Treasurer candidate Curt Pringle failed to break the 40% mark. According to **Calpeek** sources, this means the new GOP *glass ceiling* is 42%, with a Republican voting base of around 38% (which is what Lungren got). If present trends continue, in 2000 the GOP voter base could shrink to 36%...

■ **Was abortion a key issue in '98?** - A Nov. 4th news release from Brian Johnston, exec. director of the Calif. ProLife Council, has a headline which reads: Republican Loses Disappointing, but Unrelated to Abortion. Sorry Brian, but that *dog won't hunt*. Here

is what Gov. Wilson said in an interview in the L.A. Times: *"And let's face it," Wilson says, "the abortion stance killed him (Lungren). I mean, my God, Davis was relentless. Lungren only exacerbated his vulnerability, the governor believes, by running a TV ad trying to defend his anti-abortion position."* Most consultants agree totally with Wilson's remarks...

...In fact, abortion also played a key role in U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer's win over Matt Fong. Fong kept saying he supported a woman's right to choose in the first trimester --- but then he gave \$50,000 to the Traditional Values Coalition --- a group which is strongly anti-abortion. That donation by Fong (which got huge news media coverage) undercut his credibility on the abortion issue...

■ **Guns & Politics** - If there was an issue which hit a responsive note with voters, it was GUNS. The spin from Handgun Control, Inc.: *'98 elections are a grand slam for gun control*. Probably true and gun control issues surfaced in 3 races: governor, U.S. Senate and for AG. In all three races, Demos who favor tougher controls on assault weapons & Saturday Night Special cheap handguns beat their GOP rivals. FYI: given the Demo majorities in the State Senate and Assembly, it's a given that a new assault weapons ban and some sort of SNS legislation will be enacted. However, sources say Demos will be very careful after passing those two bills to avoid angering white male Demos. Stay tuned...

#### **CAMPAIGN '98: MORE CALIF. ELECTION RESULTS.**

Editor's note: Here's another update on some of the key races in the Nov. 3rd election...

☒ **Turnout** - Election day, Nov. 3rd, the turnout was **50.9%**. As of Nov. 11th, the turnout had reached **54.7%**. As Calpeek hit deadline, there were still about 300,000 absentee ballots not yet counted Statewide, meaning the turnout should hit at least 55%...

☒ **Governor** - Gov.-elect Gray Davis(D) now holds a lead of 1,562,375 over Dan Lungren(R). In raw numbers, Lungren finally went over 3 million, but Davis continues to hold a **20 point** lead on the GOP candidate - **58.0%** vs. **38.4%**. FYI: In L.A. County, the late Sheriff Sherman Block got 629,289 to Lungren's 568,067...

☒ **Secretary of State** - Incumbent SOS Bill Jones (R) continues to lead Demo rival Michela Alioto by about 68,599 as of 11/10. In percentages, its Jones 46.9% vs. 46.0% for Alioto. There are still many absentee ballots not yet counted, but this race is over...

☒ **Prop. 10** - It looks very much like Prop. 10, the tobacco tax initiative, is a winner. It continues to hold a solid lead of about 56,000 as of 11/10. FYI: the tax also applies to cigars --- so there won't be any more cheap cigars...

☒ **State Assembly** - Assembly Demos hold a **48 to 31** lead over the GOP, with one race still up in the air: the 10th AD. GOPer Anthony Pescetti holds a 607 vote lead over Demo Debra Gravert. There are about 6,000 absentee ballots yet to be counted...

☒ **Orange County** - For GOP candidates to win Statewide, rule of thumb is that they must carry Orange County by at least 200,000 votes to offset Demo strong holds in S.F. and L.A. Lungren carried O.C. over Davis, but by only 50,000 votes!!! Stay tuned...

#### **CAMPAIGN '98: MORE CITY & COUNTY RESULTS.**

Editor's note: Here are some additional city and county election results which we didn't get to in last week's newsletter...

◆ **Anaheim Mayor's Update** - As reported last week, incumbent Mayor Tom Daly easily defeated Anaheim Councilman Bob Zemel by a **54%** vs. **41%** margin. But what we didn't report was that the Calif. Republican Party gave Zemel's campaign about \$120,000. Local contests are supposed to be non-partisan, but the CRP made no secret of the fact they wanted to defeat Daly because he's a registered Demo...

◆ **S.F. Board of Supes** - The new chairman of the Board will be Tom Ammiano, who finished ahead of Supes. Gavin Newsome and Mabel Teng. Supes Mark Leno and Amos Brown also were reelected...

◆ **Oakland** - Voters approved Measure X to give new Mayor Jerry Brown more power (**75%** vs. **25%**), but Measure Z to vastly increase the business license

taxes paid by PG&E was defeated by a 69% NO vs. 31% YES vote...

◆ **Rail Service on Bay Bridge** - Voters in S.F. ("I"), Oakland ("Y"), Berkeley ("M") and Emeryville ("EE") **all approved** similar ballot measures (advisory only) to incorporate rail transportation into the Bay Bridge's retrofit plan...

◆ **Dymally's Team Vanquished** - Overlooked by the mainstream media, but not by **Calpeek**, former Congressman Mervyn Dymally's political machine took a big hit Nov. 3rd when former Assemblyman Willard Murray defeated Dymally operative Ken Orduna for a spot on the Central Water Replenishment District and Ty-roon Smith beat Mark Dymally for a spot on the West Basin Water District. Stay tuned...

#### **CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.**

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ **New State Commission with Clout** - When Gray Davis(D) takes office in January, sources believe the new governor will come under huge lobbying and political pressure in naming 5 members to the new Calif. Gaming Commission. This commission will have a huge amount of clout, given what just took place with Prop. 5 and pressure already building from the non-Indian card clubs for equal treatment...

■ **Pacheco New GOP Assembly Leader** - GOP Assemblyman Rod Pacheco from Riverside Co. has been elected leader by his 32-member caucus. No word about the rest of Pacheco's leadership team for the new session, but Dick Ackerman, Marilyn Brewer, Scott Baugh, Jim Battin, Rico Oller and Keith Olberg are all members of Pacheco's *transition team*...

■ **Is L.A. the Place for the DNC?** - Now that Philadelphia has been picked by the RNC as the host city for the 2000 GOP Presidential Convention, sources tell **Calpeek** that Los Angeles is definitely the front-runner to host the DNC gathering. Still in the picture, but long shots are Boston and Denver. Stay tuned...

#### **CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.**

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: L.A. restaurateur Gordon Fields, 76, died Oct. 18. In 1962 he opened the HMS Bounty. R.I.P...

● Gov.-elect Gray Davis has named former CSU Chancellor Barry Munitz (now president & CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust) as chairman of his transition team...

● Larry Kaplan, So. Calif. regional director in U.S. Sen. Boxer's L.A. office, has been appointed director of the L.A. office of The Trust for Public Land...

● Susan Visone has been hired as a sr. associate by Nelson Communication's San Diego office. Nelson's San Diego office also hired Jennifer Turbiak as an associate...

● Long time govt. relations director Bob Wells has been named executive director of the Assn. of CA School Administrators. Replacing Wells is Dennis Meyers, who has been ACSA's lobbyist since '90...

● New location for *English for the Children*: 3415 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Ste. 370, Los Angeles, CA 90034. New ☎ (310)737-1949. Toll free ☎ unchanged...

● Godbe Research & Analysis has named Ms. Kyle Phelan as a research coordinator...

#### **CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK**

● **National pro-Israel grassroots lobby** seeks Political Director/Asst. Director for its L.A. based regional office. Political outreach and development skills required. Excellent benefits. Salary based on experience. Fax resume in confidence to Director (323)937-8949...

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